United Nations S/2015/437

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 June 2015

Original: English

Letter dated 16 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, by decree No. 100/177 of 9 June 2015, the President of the Republic of Burundi has decreed an extension of the electoral calendar in Burundi, following the recommendations adopted at the Summit of Heads of State of the East African Community held on 31 May 2015 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and in compliance with the mandates of existing institutions that set the deadlines on 26 August 2015, when the newly elected president is sworn in. Beyond that date, Burundi will fall into an institutional vacuum that would be extremely dangerous for its stability and that of the region.

Under the new decree, the municipal and legislative elections will be held on 29 June 2015, the presidential elections on 15 July 2015 and the senatorial elections on 24 July 2015.

Given this imperative of stability for Burundi and the region, and in order to avoid an institutional vacuum in Burundi, the delaying tactics of the opposition, which seeks the establishment of a transitional government that would allow it to occupy positions in the institutions of the country without going through the polls, must be discouraged. We remain convinced that the only way to overcome the current political crisis is to organize elections and let the Burundian people choose their leaders freely, in a transparent manner and a peaceful climate.

For its part, the Government of Burundi is committed to creating and maintaining an environment conducive to the holding of free, democratic, peaceful and inclusive elections in Burundi, as in 2005 and 2010.

I kindly request that the present letter be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Albert **Shingiro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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